REMARKS

Applicant's attorney is appreciative of the interview granted by Examiners Meeks and Miller on October 21, 2010. At that interview, Applicant's attorney sought to distinguish the invention from the Christner et al reference based, in part, on the different nature of the starting materials.

Claims 15, 18 and 21-22 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over Christner et al, while claim 20 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Christner et al in view of Sekhar et al, Bernard et al and Carroll et al, and claim 23 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Christner et al in view of McHugh.

As discussed in detail at the interview, Christner et al teaches a process in which the starting material is in the form of chopped fibers (col. 1, line 67; col. 4, lines 25-26; claim 1), particularly fibers having a length of less than about 2 inches (col. 2, lines 31-32). In the impregnation step, the fibers are place in a box frame having a screen bottom (col. 2, lines 52-54). The starting material of Christner et al is therefore clearly in the form of loose fibers; a "mat" is formed only after impregnation of the chopped fibers (col. 4, lines 32-38).

According to the invention as claimed in claim 15 as examined, the starting material is in the form of "at least one of a felt, a non-woven material and a fabric." At the interview, the Examiners accepted that a felt and a fabric could not be loose fibers as in Christner et al, but questioned the meaning of "non-woven material." Applicant's attorney pointed out the well-known meaning of non-woven material as a fabric-like material made from long fibers, bonded together by chemical, mechanical, heat or solvent treatment.

The present application is based upon an English

translation of a PCT application filed originally in German, and which must be an exact translation of the original German. In the German text, the term which was translated as "non-woven material" is "vlies." Applicant believes that this term is more accurately translated as "fleece," a general term for a soft fabric, often with a deep pile.

The specification and claims have now been amended to change "non-woven material" to "fleece." To support this change in translation, a page from Cassell's German-English English-German Dictionary is attached. Since the amendments made are based upon a more accurate translation, no new matter has been added.

It is further noted that non-woven fabrics are still encompassed by the present claims, as they fall within the category of "fabrics."

The starting materials of the invention are therefore in the form of fabrics, as opposed to the chopped and individual fibers of Christner et al. Particularly as a result of the claimed starting material, a product is obtained with sufficient rigidity to be capable of serving as a support for an object in gas treatment. Christner et al is concerned only with forming a fuel cell electrode, a use for which rigidity is not required.

By starting with a felt, fleece or fabric, the claimed invention operates in a manner contrary to Christner et al, and obtains a product suitable for a purpose entirely different from that of Christner et al.

Applicants note that new claim 24 has been added to the application, reciting that the product of the claimed process has a thickness of at least 5 mm, as disclosed at page 10, lines 7-8 of the specification. While Christner et al does not disclose the thickness of the final product produced, Example 1 of Christner et al states that the mat after

impregnation has a thickness of 0.013 inches, corresponding to 0.33 mm. Applicant believes that after drying and carbonization, the final thickness will similarly be much less than 5 mm.

Sekhar et al, Bernard et al and Carroll et al were discussed in detail in the previous amendment, and none of these references cures the defects of Christner et al. McHugh has been cited to show high temperature carbonization of pitch strands, and also does not cure the defects of the Christner et al reference.

Withdrawal of these rejections is accordingly requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early allowance of the application with amended claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Cassell's

German – English English – German

Dictionary

Deutsch – Englisches Englisch – Deutsches

Wörterbuch

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Vierwaldstätter See ['fi:rvaltstetar], m. Lake of

vierwertig ['fi:rve:rtrc], adj. (Chem.) tetravalent, quadrivalent. Vierzahl, f. quaternion.

vierzehn ['fiirtsein], num, ad; foutten; - Tage, a fortnight; alle - Tage, every fortnight; heure über - Tage or in - Tagen, this day fortnight; vor - Tagen, a fortnight ago, vierzehnt, ad; fourteenth. vierzehntlägig, ad; lasting a fortnight; fortnightly, -täglich, ad; (recurring) every fortnightly. Vierzehntel, n. fourteenth part.
Vierzeiler ['fiirtsailer], m. quatrain, four-lined stanza, vierzeilig, ad; four-lined.

vierzig ['fi:rtstc], num.adj. forty. Vierzig, f. (-, p.-en) the number 40. Vierziger(in), m., f.) man p. (woman) in his (her) forties; in den Vierzigern, in the forties, vierziget, num.adj. fortieth. Vierzigen.

stel, n. fortieth part.

vigilant [vigi'lant], adj. (coll.) quick-witted, crafty.

Vigilant, m. (-en, pl. -en) (police) spy or agent.

Vigilient, [-ividi], r. vigil; 2. (R.C.) eve (of a feast).

vigilieren [-iviran], v.i. (dial.) watch out (auf (Acc.), for), keep an eye (on) or open (for).

Vignette [vi'n]sca], f. vignette.
Vikar [vi'ka:r], m. (-s, pl. -e) curate; substitute.
Vikariat [-i'a:t], n. (-(e)s, pl. -e) curacy; temporary office.

Viktoria [vik'to:ria], f. acclamation of victory; - rufen, acclaim victory; - schießen, fire a victory

Viktualien [viktu'a:lian], pl. victuals, provisions.

Villa ['vila], J. (-, pl. Villen) villa, house (in its own grounds), detached house. Villen|besitzer, m. house-owner, owner-occupier. -bewohner, m. suburban dweller, (2011.) suburbanite. -kolonie, f. residential suburb, garden-city. -viertel, n. residential area or district. vindizieren [vindi'tsi:rən], v.t. claim, lay claim to,

assert or vindicate one's right to. Iviola ['vi:ola], f. (-, pl. -len) see Viole. 2Viola [vi'o:la], f. (-, pl. -len) (Mus.) viola. Viole [vi'o:la], f. (Bot.) violet, viola.

violett [vio'let], adj., Violett, n. (-s, pl. - (coll. -s))

Violine [vio 'li:na], f. violin. Violinist [-'nɪst], m. (ent, pt. -en), Violinistin, f. violinist. Violinikassen, m. violini-case. -schlüssel, m. treble clef. -stimme, f. violin-part.

Violoncello [violon't[elo], n. (-s, pl. -s) (violon)-

Viper ('Vipat], f. (-, pl. -n) viper, adder.
 virtuell [virtu'ci], adj. virtual.
 virtuos [virtu'o:z], adj. masterly. Virtuose, m. (-n, pl. -n) virtuoso, outstanding or masterly (ust. musical) performer; (Thear.) star. virtuosenhaft, adj. masterly, technically perfect (often implying superfaciality). Virtuosentum, n. professional skill; (oft.) superficial finesse, airs of a virtuoso; (collect.) virtuosi. Virtuosinf. [-f'et:t], virtuosinf. J. See Virtuose.
 Virtuosinf. [-f'et:t], virtuosin, J. See Virtuose.
 Virtuosinf. [-f'et:t], virtuosin, j. See Virtuose.
 Visage [vi'za:3], f. (vulg.) face, dial, mug.
 Visiger [vi'zi:t], n. (-s, pl. -e) visor (of helmel); sight (of a gun); im - unpeillen, sight, get a fix on; das - aufschlagen, lift one's visor; das - stellen, set the sights; (fig.) mit offnem -, fearlessly, openly, in the face of the world. visieren.

gauge; 2. examine (passport), endorse, visé. 2. vi.:
take a sight (auf (dec.), on), sight; (take) aim (at);
(coll.) look out (for). Visiaer ferment, n. telescopic sight. -kimme, f. notch of back-sight.
-korn, n. (bead off) fore-sight. -linie, f. See
-korn, n. (bead off) fore-sight. -linie, f. See
-korn, sightlinie. -schuß, m. sightling shot. (schuß)linie, -schuß, m. sighting snot. (schuß)linie, f. line of sight. -stab, m. (Surv.) ranging-pole.

Vision [vizi'o:n], f. dream, vision. Visionār [-'ne:r], m. (-s, pl. -e), visionār, adi, visionary. Visitation [vizitatsi'o:n], f. (visit of) inspection, search, examination. Visitator [-'ta:tzi], m. (-s, pl. -en) inspector. excise-officer

Visite [vi'zi:tə], f. visit, (social) call. Visiten|karte, f. visiting or (4m.) calling card. -tag, m. at-home day; visiting day. -zimmer, n. drawing-room; reception-room.

visitieren [vizi'ti:rən], v.t. inspect, search; eine Wunde -, probe a wound.

viskos [vis'ko:z], adj. viscous, viscid. Viskose, f. artificial silk, rayon. Viskosität [-i'te:t], f. vis-

Vista [vista], f. (*, pl. Visten) view, vista; (Mus.) sight; (Comm.) a vista, at sight. Vistawechsel, m. sight-bill.

visuell [vizu'el], adj. visual

Visum ['vi:zum], n. (-s, pl. Visen or Visa) visa,

Vitalität [vitali'te:t], f. vitality, vigour.

Vitamin [vita'mi.n], n. (-s, pl. -e) vitamin. vita-minarm, adj. deficient in vitamins. Vitamin-mangel, m. vitamin deficiency.

Vogel ['fo:gol], m. (*s, pl. ::) bird; (coll.) fellow, chap, stratomer; (coll.) den - abschießen, take the cake, steal the show; (dial.) - Biliow, golden oriole; (Prov.) frig - oder sirb sink or swim; devil take the hindmost; (Prov.) einem jeden - gefällt sein Nest, there is no place like home; (coll.) einen-haben, have a been none's bonnet, have oats in the hellty, be offone shead; es is tin ms ovedi, wie dem - im Hanjsamen, have is in clover; (coll.) komischen, queer fish or customer; (coll.) komischen, gas dog; (Prov.) eine schlechter -, der sein eigen Nest Beschmutzt, it is an ill bird that jouls is own nest; (Prov.) jeder - sing till other foll.) konnen est; (Prov.) jeder - sing ill bird that jouls song; - Straug, ostrich; (coll.) queer fish, nountain-ssh, jouan (Sorber Deum, m. (Bot.) mountain-ssh, jouan (Sorber Deum, m. (Bot.) mountain-ssh, jouan outlaw, vaching, eight of birds, augury. —dunst, m. bird-cage. Jetter, fillony, but aucuparia. —beree, f. mountain-ssh, jouan short, f. follony. —beere, f. mountain-ssh, jouan short, jourd-catching, -fanger, m. See -steller. —filling, bird-catching, -fanger, m. See -steller. —filling, bird-catching, -fanger, m. Bot.) mountain-ssh, jouan sudmy, vogelfreu, d., m. bird's egg. —fang, m. lowing, bird-catching, -fanger, m. Bot. on the lover. —tus, m. sid-sed.—garn, n. fowler's net. —(ge)sang, m. aviary. —herce, f. breding-cage or place. —kenner, m. ornithology, kundige(r), m. See-kenner, —leim, m. bird-lime,—thenshor, m. See-kenner, —leim, m. bird-lime,—thenshor, m. See-kenner,—leim, m. bird-lime,—thenshor, m. sids forppings, guano, elvis, n. bird's promon vild-chenger, f. forgalni, vögeln ['fo:galni, vögeln grann, m. bird-sed.—garn, m. bird-sed.—garn

"See -gesang. -schau, f. See -perspektive.-chauer, m. See -deuter, -scheuche, f. sare-crow vogelschlecht, adj. (dad.) horizontal, level. Wogelschutzgebiet, n. bird sanctuary. -stange, Wogelschutzgebiet, n. bird sanctuary. -stange, Molech, e. Strauß-Politik, f. ostrich-like attitude; head in the sand. -trainke, f. bird-bath. -wahresager, m. See -deuter. -warte, f. omithological station. -weibchen, n. hen bird. -welt, f. aleahered world. -wicke, f. (Bbt.) bird's-tares (Vicia cracca). -zug, m. (bird) migration.

Vogesen [vo'ge:zan], pl. (the) Vosges Mountains.

demagogue.

**Noglem ['16:3]am], n. little bird, (colk.) birdie; (coll.) ich habe ein – singen hören, a little bird told me.

**Noglem ['16:3]am], m. fowler, bird-carcher.

**Noglem ['16:3]am; (-(e)s, pl. "e) overseer, bailiff;

**Steward, warden; prefect, governor, administrator;

(bbs.) provost, constolle, beadle; (Swiss) guardian;

**Vogtei ['12:1], f. (-, pl. -n) vor f. vogten, v. f. fercure, bailiwick; z. (did.) prison. vogten, v. f. f. f. f. f. f. pl. -n) word, vocable.

**Vokabel [vo'ka:ba]], f. (-, pl. -n) word, vocable.

**Vokabelschart, m. vocabulary (of p.). Vokabularium, n. (-s., pl. -flart], m. (-s., pl. -e). Vokabularium, n. (-s., pl. -rien) vocabulary (of p.). Vokabularium, n. (-s., pl. -rien) vocabulary.

**Vowel vowel: vowel; gradation. -anlaut, m. initial vowel. -austaut, m. final vowel. -inlaut, m. initial vowel sound: -e **Austaut, vowel ending, word or syllable ending with a vowel. vokaliseren f. [-izhen], v.; vocaliser. Vokaliserung, f. vocaliserung, f. vocaliserung, f. vocaliserung, f. vocal music. -partie, f. vocal music. -partie, f. vocal or voice, part. -schwund, m. vowel attophy.

**Indention of the schwund, m. vowel attophy.

**Indention of volumentation.

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Vokation [vokatsi'o:n], f. nomination to an office, Vokativ [voka'ti:f], m. (-s, pl. -e) (Gram.) vocative. Vokativus [voka'ti:vus], m. (coll.) sly dog, rogue. Voland ['fo:lant], m. (Poet.) evil fiend.

Volant [vol'ai], m. (-sp. pt. -sp. flounce, frill; z. (obs.) (Motor.) steering-wheel.

Volant [Fish], m. (-esp. pt. -sp. flounce, frill; z. (obs.) (Motor.) steering-wheel.

vola [Fish], m. (-esp. pt. -sp. people, nation, tribe, race; soldiery, troops, men, crew, herd (of beasts), flock (of birds), covey (of partridges etc.), swarm (of beasts), flock (of birds), covey (of partridges etc.), swarm (of populace or crowd, the common herd, rabble; day oppulace or crowd, the common herd, rabble; day sateliende—, the working classes; day surge of satelier er is rise in Mann aus dem—, the man in the street; er is rise im Mann aus dem—, the is an an of the people; viel—, a swarm or crowd of people, a large crowd; ein—Wachtelm, a beyy of quails.

volkarm ['folk'arm], adj. thinly peopled or popu-

League of Nations. -kunde, f. ethnology völkerkundlich, adj. ethnological. Völker|mord, m.
genotide. -adj. t. international law. völkerrechtilch, r. adj. (relating to) international (law).
2. adv. under international law. Völkerschaft, f.
people, tribe, nation. Völker|schlacht, f. the
Battle of Leipzig (1873). -verständigung, f. international understanding. -wanderung, f. mass Völkchen ['scalkçan], n. (coll.) lustiges -, merry crowd or throng; (coll.) mein -, my little ones. Völker|beschreibung, f. ethnography. -bund, m. migration.

volkhaft ['fɔlkhaft], völkisch ['fœlkɪʃ], adj. racial national, (Nat. Soc.) anti-Semitic (Nat. Soc.) anti-Semitic.

Volks|abstimmung, f. plebiscite, referendum. -auf klärung, f. education of the masses. -auf-ruhr, -aufstand, m. popular rising, insurrection. '-aufwiegler, m. agitator, demagogue. -ausdruck, volkreich ['folkraic], adj. populous, thickly popu-

m. popular expression. -ausgabe, f. edition. -befragung, f. public-opin chegehren, n. See -abstimmung. -bonblic-opin mung. -bewegung, f. noblic-opin mung. -bewegung, f. national n. bewegung, f. national n. bewugung, f. national n. bewugung, f. national n. deutidication. -bildungswerk, n. (f. adult education programme. -brauch, n. oppular prose roman book. -buicherei, See -bibliothek.-ch m. national character. -demokratie, f. democracy. -deutsche, m.p. (member German ethnic group, Germans abroad, f. density of population. -dichtung, poet, national poet. Volkseigentum, n. pu perty; im. -in public ownership; ins. ill nationalize. -einkommen, n. national compfänger, m. utility radio set. -entis See -abstimmung. -epos, n. nationership, subversive, unpartioic, Volk fair, popular etynology. -feind, m. public volksfeindlich, adf. inimical to the finterests, subversive, unpartioic, Volk fair, popular fette. -front, f. (Pol.) Peppular Front. -führer, m. popula

Volksiganze, n. the whole nation, all the gebrauch, m. popular usage. -geist, m. spirit. genoses, m. (fellow) countryin Soc.) fellow German. -gericht, n. (A people's court. -gesundheit, f. the health. -glaube, m. popular belief. -grethnic group. -gunst, f. popularity. -herrschaft, f. democracy. -hoc. f. adult education classes, extramural university extension. -hymne, f. nationa -justic, f. mob-justice; lynch-law. -k class of people, social stratum, die höfer, upper classes. -küche, f. soup-kitchen centre. -kunde, f. folklore. -kundler, m. vollskundlich, adi. regarding folklore. Hied, n. folksong. -märchen, m. popula fairy story volksmäßig, adi. popular; popularize. Volksimeinung, f. public of feeling. -melodie, f. popular ait. -nr crowd (of people), multitude, into nrand, m. vernacular. volksnah, adi. or responsive to popular sentiment, popularize, f. popular sentiment, popularize, f. popular sentiment, popularize, f. popular sentiment, oppularize, f. popular sentiment; democrac, f. antional legend, popular tradition, -schädling, m. (Nat. Soc.) anti-social sessing propular sentiment. f. mit-noral legend, popular sentiment. f. mit-noral legend, popular tradition, -schädling, m. (Nat. Soc.) anti-social sessing propular propular fradition, -schädling, m. (Nat. Soc.) anti-social sentiment. m. race, racial group. -schule, f. elemprimary school. -schuller, m. elemental pupil. -schullehrer, m. primary teacher, ary teacher. -schulwesen, n. primary es-sprache, f. vernacular, popular speech m. republic. -stamm, m. tribe, race. -stipublic opinion. -stimmung, f. public popular feeling. -tanz, m. folk-dance. -t national costume or dress. -trauertag, national mourning.

Volkstum (Tölkstu.m), n. nationality, nat national characteristics; sein – bewahren, one's national characteristics. volkstüm court popularity. volkstümlich, ad; popular pepularity, volkstümlich, ad; Volkstümlichkeit, f. nationality; nation characteristic; popularity.

richt, m. national system of education. v. bunden, adj. rooted in one's national soil. verbundenheit, f. national solidarity verbundenheit, f. national solidarity mögen, n. See -einkommen. -versan f. national assembly -vertreter ... Volks|überlieferung, f. popular tradition.